(b) 3,680 applications were received till 31st July 2001 through these speed post centres.

(c) Yes, Sir. The passport applicants in the nine districts in Karnataka can submit application forms for fresh passports and have them scrutinised and corrected locally without having to go to the Regional Passport Office at Bangalore.

(d) The speed post centres at Bellary, Raichur, Mysore, Udupi and Gulbarga are already accepting passport application forms from the general public.

Termination of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

*446. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Planning Commission has decided to terminate all the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Ministry of Industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the impact of the decision on employment generation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir. It has not been decided in the Planning Commission to terminate all the Centrally sponsored schemes in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, nor is there any such proposal. However, a Committee of the National Development Council on Transfer of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) has been set up under the chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. The Terms of Reference of the Committee are:

1. To identify the CSS for retention by the Centre and those for transfer to the States/UT's and to classify all the CSS accordingly.
2. For those CSS which will be identified for transfer to the States/ UT's, suggest the modalities of transfer including earmarking, the funding pattern, the timeframe for the transfer and the monitoring mechanism.
3. In order to avoid future proliferation of CSS lay down the criteria for the introduction of new CSS.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.